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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/765,137	01/18/2001	Lloyd Adams	P/2167-260	7821
21967	7590	06/27/2005		
HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT 1900 K STREET, N.W. SUITE 1200 WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1109			EXAMINER KAZIMI, HANI M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3624	

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/765,137

Applicant(s)

ADAMS ET AL.

Examiner

Hani Kazimi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/18/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application has been reviewed. Original claims 1-13 are pending. The objections and rejections cited are as stated below:

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1 and 3 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1 is missing a period at the end of the claim.

Claim 3 has two periods at the end of the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. Claim 7 recites the limitation "the cashing" in line 20. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an

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application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tengel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,594,226), (hereinafter, "Tengel").

Claims 1-3 and 6, Tengel teaches a system and a corresponding method for producing and sending a loan document to a customer, comprising, a web-enabled customer interface which receives loan information from the customer, a network coupled to the customer interface, the network receives the loan information from the customer interface, a web site coupled to the network, the web site receives the loan information and merges the loan information with a loan application form to produce a loan application, a loan processor, coupled to the web site, the loan processor receives the loan application, performs a credit check on the customer based on the loan application, and determines whether the customer should receive a loan based on the credit check, and a document server coupled to the loan processor, the document server generates and sends the loan document to the customer, based on the loan application, when the loan processor determines that the customer should receive the loan, the loan processor sends the loan document to the customer through one of e-mail, facsimile, the network, a first printer coupled to the network, and a second printer coupled to another network (abstract, figs. 1, 2A, 2B, 5, and 9; column 4, line 53 thru column 5, line 19 and column 8, line 37 thru column 10, line 56).

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Tengel teaches the use of a credit approval agency that is coupled to the loan processor, wherein the loan processor performs the credit check by sending the loan application to the credit approval agency (fig. 1, elements 116 and 117). Tengal teaches that the network is the Internet, and the customer interface is one of a computer, a personal digital assistant, and a loan application kiosk 9column 8, lines 37-49).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC ' 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent May not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 148 USPQ 459, that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or unobviousness.

8. Claims 4, 5, and 7-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tengal et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,594,226), (hereinafter, "Tengel").

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Claims 4, 5, 7, and 13, Tengel teaches all the claimed limitation as discussed above with respect to the rejections of claims 1-3 and 6.

However, Tengel fails to teach that cashing a check indicates acceptance by the customer of the terms listed in the loan document, checking the validity of the check, and the loan document includes insurance information relating to the loan.

Official Notice is taken that cashing a check as an indication of accepting a contract, checking the validity of a check, and having insurance information relating to a loan in a loan document is old and well known in the art.

It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Tengel to include that cashing a check indicates acceptance by the customer of the terms listed in the loan document, checking the validity of the check, and the loan document includes insurance information relating to the loan because, it greatly improves the efficiency of the system by providing an easier and faster way of processing loan contracts, and a system that is user friendly.

Claims 8-12, Tengel teaches all the claimed limitations as discussed above with respect to claims 1-3 and 6.

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Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hani Kazimi whose telephone number is (571) 272-6745. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (571) 272-6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-2 17-9197 (toll-free).



**HANI M. KAZIMI
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

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March 7, 2005